

By Express Mail # EV608568363US · February 28, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims:

Claim 1-5 (cancelled)

Claim 6 (new): A submersible motor-driven pump, comprising:
a housing having an intake connection and a discharge connection;
an impeller mounted in the housing between the intake connection and the discharge connection;

a shaft on which the impeller is mounted, the shaft being supported for rotation in the housing;

a cylindrical can mounted in the housing, said shaft extending concentrically into the can to form a free space between the shaft and the can; and

anti-freeze apparatus installed in the housing for protecting the shaft.

Claim 7 (new): The submersible motor driven pump of claim 6 further comprising a ceramic bearing supporting the shaft, the anti-freeze apparatus comprising:

an elastomeric bushing supporting the ceramic bearing in an entrance of the can;
and

a water displacer arranged in the free space.

Claim 8 (new): The submersible pump of claim 6 wherein the anti-freeze apparatus comprises an elastomeric mount which supports the shaft in the impeller.

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Claim 9 (new): The submersible pump of claim 6 wherein the anti-freeze apparatus further comprises an elastomeric diaphragm mounted at a low point in the housing, the diaphragm being expandible when subjected to ice pressure.

Claim 10 (new): The submersible pump of claim 6 wherein the shaft is a ceramic shaft.